Secure Health Data Sharing with our External Partner Health Information Exchanges

Over sixty percent of DoD beneficiary healthcare delivery occurs in the private sector by healthcare providers which are usually, but not always, part of an HIE. The HIE Office in the EHR Modernization PMO within SDD leads the Virtual Lifetime Electronic Record (VLER) Initiative, allowing healthcare providers to securely share medical information with authorized federal and civilian providers over a secure and compliant network for a more complete view of our patient’s medical data. Information is shared under the Data Use and Reciprocal Support Agreement (DURSA), which is a comprehensive, multi-party trust agreement, via the eHealth Exchange.

The HIE Office, in collaboration with the Defense Medical information Exchange (DMIX) and DHA Governance, collects and analyzes HIE data to prioritize HIE onboarding, allowing DoD healthcare providers access to records of patient care delivered in the private sector. The HIE Office supports the Military Health System (MHS) and our Military Treatment Facilities (MTFs) by providing information and analysis to determine HIE partnerships that are of high value (HIEs which provide large amounts of healthcare to MHS beneficiaries) to MTF providers.

Key Benefits

- VLER HIE Initiative including communication and an opt-out process for non-active duty beneficiaries
- Prioritize HIEs for the DHA
- Co-lead the HIE Workgroup (DHA Governance)
- Collaborative with the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) on HIE activities
- Align activity to the National Defense Authorization Act 2017

Key Features

- Reduces the burden of carrying paper records between healthcare providers
- Minimizes the need and costs associated with exchanging paper records
- Enhances the delivery and effectiveness of care

Information is communicated electronically through two public websites:
http://www.tricare.mil/vlerhealth
http://www.health.mil/vler

These two websites highlight how VLER HIE allows beneficiaries to have their health information securely shared with participating healthcare providers who have joined the eHealth Exchange.